

**Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee**

**Summary Minutes**

**January 19, 2006**

**Meeting Time 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Meeting Location:**

**Metering Building, Second Floor Conference Room**

**SPU Operations Control Center**

**2700 Airport Way South**

**Seattle, WA**

**Members and Alternates Present:** Bruce Bachen (SPU), Phyllis Meyers (NMFS), Steve Foley (WDFW), Frank Urabeck (Fish Advocate), Dennis Moore (MIT), Bill Robinson (Public), Chuck Wischman (PSA), Tim Romanski (UWFWS), Kollin Higgins (KC)

**Other Participants:** Paul Seidel, Brodie Antipa, Pat Frazier, Joan Thomas, (WDFW), Paul Faulds (SPU)

**Public:** *Roz Glasser*

**Call to order**

*Bruce B. called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM.*

**Approval of agenda**

*The agenda was approved after adding two informational items: water conditions in the Cedar River and an update on a meeting with the ACOE at the Locks.*

**Meeting minutes review and approval from December 15, 2005**

*Frank U. noted that the minutes did not capture the statement that he is no longer representing Trout Unlimited on the AFC. He had informed SPU and the AFC previously of the change in affiliation, but wasn't updated on the draft minutes and draft agenda that had been sent out. SPU has updated Frank's affiliation at his request to Fish Advocate. Following this modification the AFC unanimously approved the meeting minutes.*

**Interim mitigation program for coho, chinook and steelhead**

***O. mykiss genetics study final report***

*Bruce B. began the meeting with this item to use the time available until Paul Devries arrived. He informed members that WDFW wanted further time for review of the draft O. mykiss report. The draft is now scheduled to be released by February 28, 2006, the comment period will be from March 1 - April 30, 2006, and the final report will be released by May 31, 2006.*

***Adult PIT tag reader results from the Locks by Paul Devries***

*Paul D. briefed members on PIT tagging in the Lake Washington Basin and provided members with a handout that characterized adult PIT tag detections at the Locks. The handout was based on the Technical Memorandum by R2 Resource Consultants, Inc., Adult PIT Tag Reader*

*Detection Summary as of November 7, 2005, Hiram M. Chittenden Locks Fish Ladder. During the presentation there was a brief discussion concerning the effects of water temperature, fish recycling through the Locks, and potential residualization of Chinook in Lake Washington.*

***O. mykiss genetics study final report - continued***

*Frank U. moved that the AFC pursue a peer review for the O. mykiss. Chuck W. provided a second to Frank U. motion. Bruce reread the motion on the floor to use up to \$5,000 from the 2006 funding for the interim program for a peer review of the O. mykiss draft final report. The motion passed unanimously.*

***Review 2006 proposals***

*Bruce B. described the timeline and process for reviewing proposals and making a recommendation to the LMA Parties. Members felt they could meet the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline even if they had to have an extra meeting or conference call to take the final vote. Bruce B. noted the committee received good proposals this year in part because the AFC spent the time honing the questions in the RFP so they addressed specific needs.*

*The first proposal was titled: A proposal to understand the role of active side-channels in the Cedar River in providing rearing habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*). The investigators included: Hans B. Berge and Dan Eastman (KC), Roger Peters and Roger Tabor (USFWS).*

*The second proposal was titled: Otolith analysis to assess the importance of lake rearing for Cedar River Chinook salmon. The investigators were Reg Reisenbichler and Kim Larsen (USGS). The proposal addressed the RFP question: What is the relative survival rate to adult for Chinook fry and smolt leaving the Cedar River?*

*The third proposal was titled: Washington Trout is submitting the following proposal in response to the Anadromous Fish Committee's Request for Proposal (RFP) of December 2005. The proposal directly addresses RFP Question #2. The investigator was Jamie Glasgow from Washington Trout. The proposal also addressed the RFP question: What is the relative survival rate to adult for Chinook fry and smolt leaving the Cedar River?*

*The fourth proposal on the matrix was titled: Development of a Permanent Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) reader at the mouth of the Cedar River. The investigators were George Pess, Earl Prentice, and Peter Kiffney (NOAA). The proposal addressed the RFP question: What additional information can be learned from PIT tagged fish that enter/leave the Cedar River*

*The fifth proposal on the matrix was titled: Expanded Analysis Techniques for PIT Tag Detection Data on Cedar River Chinook Salmon. Steve Ralph from Stillwater Sciences, Inc. submitted the proposal. The proposal also addressed the RFP question: What additional information can be learned from PIT tagged fish that enter/leave the Cedar River?*

**Public comment**

*Bruce B. noted that the meeting has reached the time slot set aside for public comment. He noted that Roz Glasser was in the audience and asked her if she wished to provide public comment. She declined.*

**Review 2006 proposals - continued**

*The sixth proposal on the matrix was titled: Predation of juvenile salmonids by predatory fishes in the Cedar River. The investigators were Hans Berge (KC), Roger Tabor (USFWS), and Steve Foley (WDFW). The proposal did not specifically address an RFP question.*

*The final proposal on the matrix was titled: Success of Cedar River salmon colonization: A genetic assessment. The investigators were Joseph H. Anderson and Thomas P. Quinn (UW). The proposal did not specifically address one of the three RFP questions but the RFP indicated that a proposal for this ongoing work would be considered.*

**Sockeye mitigation****Membership on Adaptive management committees**

*Bruce B. updated members on the AMP schedule. He noted that one of the goals for implementing the AMP is the formation of committees in 2006. The AMP framework includes a technical work group to advise the AMP work group. The technical work group will include five scientists, representing key disciplines, and two scientists can be added if needed to represent other areas. Bruce noted the LMA Parties will make the appointments to the committees. He invited the AFC to bring forward recommendations of good candidates for these positions.*

**Review of monitoring plan in AMP**

*The adaptive management plan is scheduled for review in 2006, once the committees are in place.*

**Fry Rearing**

*Bruce briefed members on the progress in developing a plan to rear fry at the hatchery this year as recommended by the committee. He noted this year should especially benefit from short term rearing because scour and sustained high flows in the river will reduce natural production. He noted the intent of the short term rearing was to better align outmigration timing and to ensure that the fry are developmentally ready to migrate to the lake for rearing.*

**Other**

*Bruce noted that the sockeye program had some carry over funds (approx. \$25,000) and an additional \$50,000 available in 2006. These additional HCP funds represent the difference between the operating commitment for the interim and replacement hatcheries. The AFC will be asked to recommend how these funds should be spent.*

**Sockeye Monitoring****2005 Cedar River and Bear Creek downstream migrant report**

*Bruce B. noted the total outmigration was strong in 2005 with about 75% naturally produced fry and 25% hatchery. He invited comments from the committee members as soon as possible.*

**Information and discussion items*****Cedar River counts***

*Steve noted high water has prevented counts. WDFW has only been able to get on the river one day since the last meeting. Steve noted the Lions Club side channel project is getting high flows. He felt if flows dropped to 800 to 900 cfs they may float the Cedar River to count coho.*

***Landsburg Fish Passage***

*Paul F. informed members that as of 1-13-06 the coho count was 173 passed over the dam. He noted the total was comprised of 61 unclipped females, 2 clipped females, 103 unclipped males, and 4 clipped males. In addition, there were 3 small coho passed early in the season and their sex was unknown. The chinook migration ended in early November with a total of 69.*

***Water situation***

*Bruce B. noted that Seattle was trying to maintain and recover flood pocket in the Chester Morse reservoir. He noted that the water elevation in the reservoir was high enough to pass water through the notch in the dam. Without the efforts by SPU to manage flows it was calculated that flows near Renton would have been near 7,000 to 8,000 cfs instead of 4000 cfs.*

***Locks meeting***

*Bruce B. described the recent meeting with the ACOE to discuss adult mortality associated with salmon being trapped in the diffuser well at the locks. There was some interest in continued monitoring at the Locks for mortalities, but most of the focus was to find a solution to the problem as soon as possible.*

***Adjournment***

*The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM*